



# Tempe Art in Private Development

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## IKEA

2110 W. IKEA Way

### Niki Glen & Helen Helwig

*Sun, Wind, Earth, & Water,*  
2004

Handmade clay tile, glass,  
stone, river rock, concrete

#### Artist Website:

[www.glenstudios.com](http://www.glenstudios.com),  
[www.helwigstudios.com](http://www.helwigstudios.com)

**Description:** Four benches have been created to fit into the landscape areas near the front of the IKEA store. The top and sides of each bench have been covered with approximately 25 square feet of ornamentation each. Specific emphasis has been placed on natural materials and natural colors of the environment relating to each bench's theme (*Sun, Wind, Earth, & Water*) and color combinations that represents each of the four elements.

**Artist biography:** Southwest Public Art Group (SWPAG) specializes in high-quality public, corporate and individual art commissions that both delight the eye and enhance community life. Helen Helwig and Niki Glen are professional artists who work together to create high-quality public art. Helwig brings more than 25 years of experience in clay design and fabrication, and Glen has directed more than 50 community public art projects. Both artists have directed many large-scale public art installations. Projects have included installations at a hospital, a public library, an office complex entryway and a bus shelter. Helwig is an award-winning clay artist who develops innovative glaze techniques, and Glen is a professional designer and muralist.

**Funding:** This project was funded by the individual developer, IKEA, as a requirement of Tempe's Art in Private Development Ordinance.